More than to anſwere, that mine owne is mine,
But wilt thou ſee me parley with the Towne,
And heare them offer me allegance,
Fealtie and homage, as true liegemen ought.

K. Phil. Summon them, I will not beleeue it till I ſee it, and when I ſee it, Ile ſoone change it.

They ſummon the Towne, the Citizens appeare vpon the walls.

K. Ioh. You men of *Angiers*, and as I take it my loyall ſubiects, I haue ſummoned you to the walls: to diſpute on my right, were to thinke you doubtfull therein, which I am perſwaded you are not. In fewe words our brothers ſonne, backt with the King of *France*, haue beleagred your towne vpon a falſe pretended title to the ſame: in defence whereof I your liege Lord haue brought our power to fence you from the Vſurper, to free your intended ſeruitude, and vtterly to ſupplant the foemen, to my right and your reſt. Say then, who keepe you the towne for?

Cit. For our lawfull King.

Ioh. I was no leſſe perſwaded: then in Gods name open your gates and let me enter.

Cit And it pleaſe your Highneſſe we controll not your title, neither will we raſhly admit your entrance: if you be lawfull King, with all obedience we keepe it to your vſe, if not King, our raſhnes to be impeached for yeelding, without more conſiderate triall: wee anſwere not as men lawleſſe, but to the behoofe of him that prooues lawfull.

Ioh. I ſhall not come in then?

Cit. No my Lord, till we know more.

K. Phil. Then heare me ſpeake in the behalfe of *Arthur* ſon of *Ieffery*, elder brother to *Iohn*, his title manifeſt, without contradiction, to the crowne & kingdome of England, with Angiers, & diuers townes on this ſide the ſea: will you acknowledge him your Liege Lord, who ſpeaketh in my word, to entertain you with all fauors, as beſeemeth a King to his Subiects, or a friend to his welwillers: or ſtand to the peril of your cõtempt, whẽ his title is proued by the ſword.

Citizen

Cit. We anſwere as before, till right, we acknowledge none right, our Soueraigne, to him will we rema for him, and in his right we hold our know the truth, as loth to ſubſcribe b than this we cannot ſay, & more tha

K. Phil Then *Iohn* I defie thee, i of *Arthur Plantaginet*, thy King an and patrimony thon detaineſt, as I d end, in a ſet battell make thee confeſ zeale to right, I challenge thee.

K. Iohn, I accept thy challenge, to thy throat.

Excurſions. The Baſtard chaſeth Ly *Duke, and maketh him leaue t*

Baſt. And art thou gone misfortu
And chill cold feare aſſaile thy times
Morpheus leaue here thy ſilent Eba
Beſiege his thoughts with diſmall fa
And ghaſtly obiects of pale threatni
Affright him euery minute with ſtear
Let ſhadow temper terror in his tho
And let the terror make the coward
And in his madneſſe let him feare pu
And ſo in frenſie let the peaſant die.
Here is the ranſome that allaies his r
The firſt freehold that *Richard* let hi
With which I ſhall ſurpriſe his liuing
As *Hectors* ſtature did the fainting G

Enter the Kings Heraulds with T of Angiers: *they ſummon*

Eng. Her. Iohn by the grace of G
Lord of Ireland, Aniow, Toraine, &
gaine of you his ſubiects of Angiers,
render vp the towne into his hands?

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *King John* (STC 14647) LONDON, 1622 UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH (JA 3731)